

writings and addresses entitled "The Foes of Our Own Household." (The George H. Doran Company, 1917.)

Two days after the President's action was announced, the veteran statesman of France, Georges Clemenceau, addressed to him through the press on May 27, 1917, this open letter of appeal to reconsider his decision:

"If I have the temerity of addressing you it is because it may be permitted me to throw light on certain aspects which perhaps are not sufficiently clear to you. Allow me to say, in all candor, that at the present moment there is in France one name which sums up the beauty of American intervention. It is the name Eoosevelt, your predecessor, even your rival, but with whom there can now be no other rivalry than heartening success. I saw Eoosevelt only once in my life. It was just after I left office and he returned from his lion hunt. He is an idealist, imbued with simple, vital idealism. Hence his influence on the crowd, his prestige—to use the right expression. It is possible that your own mind, inclosed in its austere legal frontiers, which has been the source of many noble actions, has failed to be impressed by the vital hold which personalities like Eoosevelt have on popular imagination. But you are too much of a philosopher to ignore that the influence on the people of great leaders of men often exceeded their personal merits, thanks to the legendary halo surrounding them. The name of Eoosevelt has this legendary force in our country at this time and in my opinion it would be a great error to

ignore the
force which everything counsels us to make use
of as quickly
as possible.

" Eoosevelt was one of the greatest
craftsmen in the
great laborious work which will constitute
your glory. It
cannot displease you that your two names
are coupled
in our minds. He, moreover, followed your idea.
He wished
to raise four volunteer divisions of infantry to
be incorporated in our armies. The Senate and
Congress did not
withhold consent. If the law has charged you,
Mr. President, with all the practical issues of the
undertaking, it is
no less true that Eoosevelt represents a
vast potential